



What is the Open Space and Recreation Plan?

- Open Space and Recreation Plan = "OSRP"
- "A tool through which a community plans for the future of its conservation and recreation resources." (Mass.gov, 2022)
- A plan for plans

- Accumulation of public participation, stakeholder engagement, goals and objectives
- Source of funding: approved OSRPs are eligible for grant programs for up to 7 years
- A way to connect with residents about local conservation and recreation issues

Overview and Benefits of the OSRP

- Provides a snapshot of community priorities from stakeholder feedback and public engagement
- Guides policy decisions for open space, climate resiliency, natural resources, and recreational issues
- Maintain public spaces and recreational facilities

- Protects open spaces, habitat, and biodiversity
- Develops and implements a capital improvement program
- Improves public access and awareness
- Source of funding

OSRP Requirements

- 1. Plan summary overall aspirations of the community
- 2. Introduction statement of purpose, planning process, and public participation
- 3. Community setting regional context, community history, demographics, etc.
- 4. Environmental inventory and analysis water resources, fisheries, wildlife, etc.
- 5. Inventory of Lands ownership, use, condition, and potential of parcels

- 6. Community vision description of how the community vision was obtained
- 7. Analysis of needs summary of resource protection, community, and management needs
- 8. Goals and objectives comprehensive set of goals and objectives identified
- 9. Action Plan year-by-year timetable for specific actions to accomplish
- 10. Public comments all public comments submitted during the OSRP process
- 11. References all reference documents used



What is "Open Space"?

Private Lands

- Private recreational areas
- Lands under special taxation programs (Chapter 61/A/B)
- Other non-protected, private parcels

Public Lands

- Town owned "Conservation" and "Recreation" lands and resources
- Non-profit lands (i.e. Metacomet)
- Federal and State owned lands (i.e. State forest)

What is Recreation?

- Programs
- Indoor and outdoor facilities
- Parks
- Playgrounds
- Multi-use fields
- Courts





Open Space and Recreation Sites in Franklin

• https://www.franklinma.gov/conservation/webforms/open-space-a
nd-recreation-areas









Public and Private Recreation Inventory

• https://www.franklinma.gov/conservation/files/public-and-private -recreation-sites-franklin

On the OSRP webpage...

Resources:

2016 OSRP Plan (Updated)

OSRP Update Memo to the Conservation Commission (dated November 16, 2022)

Public and Private Recreation Sites in Franklin

Franklin Public Schools Open Space and Recreation Areas







Public Schools Open Space and Recreation Areas

• https://www.franklinma.gov/conservation/files/franklin-public-sch ools-open-space-and-recreation-areas

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Resources:

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Public and Private Recreation Sites in Franklin

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Summary of the 2016 Survey

- 88.2% of households reported they were supportive of Town appropriations for acquisition of Open Space
- 85.3% of households reported they were supportive of Town appropriations for additional recreational facilities
- Households were equally in agreement that the Town should prioritize improving existing recreational facilities, acquiring/building additional recreational facilities, and acquiring conservation lands for passive recreation
- Walking was the most reported recreational activity amongst all age groups (639 households)
- Bike trails were identified ranked as the most needed recreational facility needed among residents
- 60.7% of residents reported that they would sell land to the Town at a fair market price to preserve Open Space
- Water resources and wildlife habitat ranked highest in important for preservation





Accomplishments since the 2016 OSRP

- Acquired the Riverbend Open Space Area
- Improved the surface of the SNETT system
- Signage at every field and open space area
- Parking analysis at open space areas
- Recycling receptacles at all recreation areas
- Constructed shared use path to a portion of Grove Street and sharrows to some side streets
- Increased the Open Space Fund
- Secured capital funding
- Sidewalks were added to portions of Chestnut Street and Pleasant Street, Beaver Street, and Lincoln Street





Accomplishments since the 2016 OSRP

- Transferred Town owned tax title and unresolved parcels to the Conservation Commission for designation as "Conservation" lands and permanent protection
- Evaluated local fee and tax structures to create a permanent revenue stream
- Acquired land adjacent to existing (circa 2016) recreation areas that were suitable for future "Conservation" land or additional recreation areas
- Conducted community outreach for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) and had the CPA on the Town ballot







- Digital citizen survey
 - o February 13, 2023 April 16, 2023
- Three public hearings
 - February 2023 2016 OSRP Review and Current Priorities
 - April 2023 Goals & Objectives for 2023 OSRP
 - o June 2023 Draft 2023 OSRP review
- Comment period
 - Month long public comment period to gather input regarding the draft Plan

Conservation, Council, and State approval



- Visit the OSRP Webpage
 - https://www.franklinma.gov/conservation/pages/2023-open-space-and-recreation-plan-update
- Sign up for Conservation news alerts
 - franklinma.gov/subscribe
- Conservation calendar
 - https://www.franklinma.gov/node/24/events/month
 - Office hours: alternating Fridays 10a 11a in Room 326A at Town Hall
- Provide input by Google Form, email, or survey
 - Google Form: https://forms.gle/GLJ88MHhykuCmw4y6
 Email: bgoodlander@franklinma.gov
- Survey posted on all digital platforms Feb 2023 April 2023

 Contact Breeka Li Goodlander for more information or a hardcopy
- Attend the public hearings
 - Paper comment
 - Digital comment
 - Public comment

Schedule an OSRP presentation for your group or organization

Contact bgoodlander@franklinma.gov for more information



Get Involved







OSRP Google Form



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Event Calendar

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OSRP Webpage



